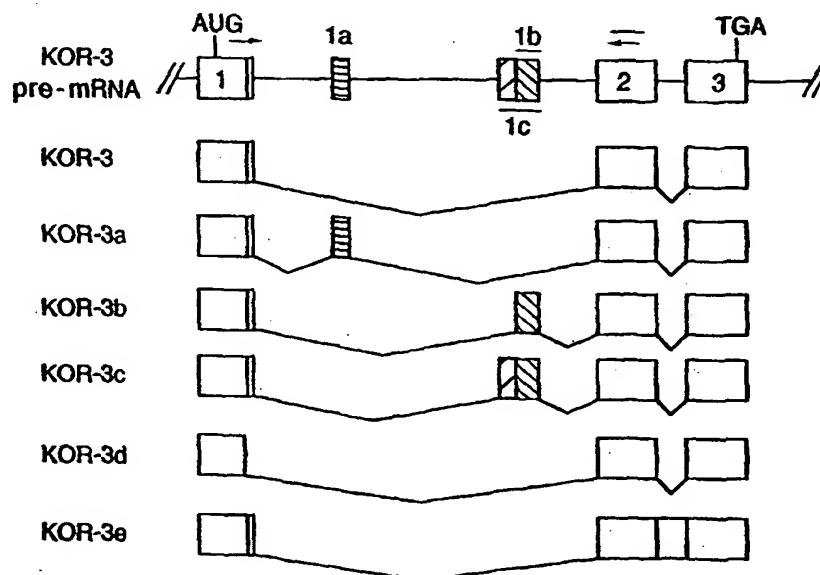




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(54) Title: IDENTIFICATION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF MULTIPLE SPLICE VARIANTS OF THE KAPPA₃-RELATED OPIOID RECEPTOR (KOR-3) GENE



(57) Abstract

The present invention encompasses novel splice variant forms of the muopioid receptor-1 (KOR-3) and the polynucleotide sequences encoding the KOR-3 splice variants. The invention further encompasses methods of screening for compositions regulating the KOR-3 splice variant activities and the development of therapeutic modalities directed to regulating activity. Regulation of the KOR-3 splice variant activities may impact the physiologic processes of analgesia and weight management.